

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for producing a solid type pressure-sensitive adhesive composition comprising adding, in the absence of a solvent, a tackifier to a rubbery polymer and ~~treating~~kneading the resulting mixture with an isocyanate crosslinking agent, in the absence of a solvent for a kneading time of 5-40 minutes, to crosslink the polymer, and thereby produce said solid pressure-sensitive adhesive composition,

wherein the treatment is conducted at a temperature of about 80 to 160°C.

2. (previously presented): The method for producing a solid type pressure-sensitive adhesive composition of claim 1, wherein said rubbery polymer is natural rubber.

3. (previously presented): The method for producing a solid type pressure-sensitive adhesive composition of claim 2, wherein said natural rubber has a Mooney viscosity ML_{1+4} (100°C) of 20 to 100.

4. (previously presented): The method for producing a solid type pressure-sensitive adhesive composition of claim 1, wherein said tackifier is a resin compatible with said rubbery polymer.

5. (previously presented): The method for producing a solid type pressure-sensitive adhesive composition of claim 1, wherein said tackifier is used in an amount of 20 to 200 parts by weight per 100 parts of said rubber polymer.

6. (currently amended): The method for producing a solid type pressure-sensitive adhesive composition of claim 1, wherein said isocyanate crosslinking agent is a polyisocyanate compound having two or more isocyanate groups in the molecule.

7. (previously presented): The method for producing a solid type pressure-sensitive adhesive composition of claim 1, wherein said isocyanate crosslinking agent is used in an amount of 0.1 to 20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of said rubbery polymer.

8. (canceled).

9. (canceled).

10. (previously presented): The method for producing pressure-sensitive adhesive sheets of claim 18, wherein said layer comprising the pressure-sensitive adhesive composition has a thickness of about 10 to 200 μm .

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11. (previously presented): The method for producing pressure-sensitive adhesive sheets of claim 18, wherein said rubbery polymer is natural rubber.

12. (previously presented): The method for producing pressure-sensitive adhesive sheets of claim 11, wherein said natural rubber has a Mooney viscosity ML_{1+4} (100°C) of 20 to 100.

13. (previously presented): The method for producing pressure-sensitive adhesive sheets of claim 18, wherein said tackifier is a resin compatible with said rubbery polymer.

14. (previously presented): The method for producing pressure-sensitive adhesive sheets of claim 18, wherein said tackifier is used in an amount of 20 to 200 parts by weight per 100 parts of said rubber polymer.

15. (currently amended): The method for producing pressure-sensitive adhesive sheets of claim 18, wherein said isocyanate crosslinking agent is a polyisocyanate compound having two or more isocyanate groups in the molecule.

16. (previously presented): The method for producing pressure-sensitive adhesive sheets of claim 18, wherein said isocyanate crosslinking agent is used in an amount of 0.1 to 20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of said rubbery polymer.

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17. (canceled).

18. (currently amended): A method of producing pressure-sensitive adhesive sheets comprising calendering or extrusion coating, in the absence of a solvent, a solid type pressure-sensitive adhesive composition obtained by a method comprising adding, in the absence of a solvent, a tackifier to a rubbery polymer and ~~treating~~kneading the resulting mixture with an isocyanate crosslinking agent for a kneading time of 5-40 minutes, in the absence of a solvent, to crosslink the polymer, on a substrate, wherein the treatment is conducted at a temperature of about 80 to 160°C.